

(d) The total earnings from special trains and reserved party coaches inclusive of tourist cars are as under:

(Rs. in Thousands)	
Year	Earnings
1995-96	414784
1996-97	350845
1997-98	356044
1998-99	572398

Note: These figures exclude the normal earnings from operation of passenger/commuter/Mail Express trains.

Payment of insurance charges to retiring N.R. employees

3549. MISS FRIDA TOPNO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 5165, given in the Rajya Sabha on 12th May, 2000 and state:

(a) the names of persons who retired as Sub-Head from Traffic Accounts Office, Northern Railway in 1980, alongwith amount of insurance charges paid to them after retirement;

(b) whether complaints have been received from MPs, to the effect that due payment of insurance charges to some retired Sub-Heads of 1980, with interest, is still pending; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and reasons for not making the due payment of insurance charges?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Manufacture of bus and truck bodies by the Railways

3550. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry of Railways is considering a proposal for induction of new technology to enable its production units manufacture bus and truck bodies;

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(b) if so, the details thereof, and

(c) the reasons for the railways diversifying into field of production of non-railway components?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Halt stations under Samastipur division

†3551. **PROF. RAM DEO BHANDARY:** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the names of halt stations under the Samastipur division in North-Eastern Railway;

(b) who carries on operations of the halt stations;

(c) the number of halt-stations where private operators are to be appointed and the criteria for their appointment; and

(d) by when appointments against vacancies would be made?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) There are thirty eight halt stations under Samastipur Division viz., Madan Misra, Jhanjharpur Bazar, Chandeshwarsthan, Barhara, Mithiladeep, Parsa Basuari, Shisho, Chandauna, Mohini Mandal, Kangali, Baraipura, Uzna, Lalit Lakshmipur, Korahia, Saharsa Katchehry, Kadampura, Baijnathpur Adndoli, Narayanpur Murli, Ram Bishanpur, Chhatapur Road, Deviganj, Chakardaha, Alinagar Tola, Rupauli, Deenapatti, Sukhasan Kothi, Shaheed Suraj Narain Singh, Awasani, Pipraha, Nariyar, Harpr Nagar, Kuria, Bangari, Masnadih, Parsa Nagar, Prajapati, Rameshwar Nagar and Musharwa.

(b) Generally, Halt contractors are appointed for selling of tickets at the halt stations.

(c) and (d) As per the extant policy, the appointment of half contractors is done for a period of three years after calling for applications through advertisements. Thereafter, the Selection Committee recommends the suitable candidate on the basis of merit and suitability for appointment.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.